

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), PFOR, AF, US

SUBJ: POLITICAL/ECONOMIC ISSUES AND THE SECRETARY'S VISIT

1. BRIEFING PAPERS FOR THE SECRETARY'S AUGUST 8
VISIT TO KABUL MIGHT USEFULLY INCLUDE FOLLOWING ISSUES
WHICH THE SECRETARY SHOULD CONSIDER RAISING WITH PRESIDENT
DAOUD AND OTHER AFGHAN LEADERS. (AID ISSUES SEPTEL).
THESE ISSUES MAY ALSO BE RAISED BY AFGHANS. ATMOSPHERE
FOR SECRETARY'S VISIT EXTREMELY GOOD. SINCE MOHAMMAD
NAIM RETURNED TO KABUL FROM HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON THERE
HAS BEEN A GLOW ON AFGHAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS THAT WILL
STILL BE APPARENT WHEN THE SECRETARY ARRIVES. EQUALY
UPBEAT IS OPTIMISTIC MOOD THAT RESULTED FROM PRIME
MINISTER BHUTTO'S RECENT TALKS WITH PRESIDENT DAOUD.

2. AFGHAN/PAK RELATIONS. PAK P.M. BHUTTO CAME TO KABUL
JUNE 7-11 FOR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT DAOUD. WHILE LONG-
STANDING DISPUTE CAN NOT BE QUICKLY SOLVED OR SHELVED,
SUMMIT RESULTED IN MORATORIUM ON PROPAGANDA AND
EARLY RETURN VISIT BY DAOUD TO CONTINUE TALKS. BOTH
COUNTRIES APPEAR TO BE ACTIVELY MAINTAINING ATMOSPHERE
CONDUCIVE TO CONTINUED THAW. SECRETARY MIGHT REITER-
ATE U.S. APPROVAL OF FAVORABLE IMPACT THIS DEVELOPMENT
AND INDO-PAK NORMALIZATION MAY HAVE ON REGIONAL STABILITY.

3. AFGHAN/IRANIAN RELATIONS. AFGHAN/IRANIAN RELATIONS
WERE GREATLY IMPROVED BY THE SHAH'S 1974 OFFER OF
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MASSIVE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN. DAOUD'S

MAY 1975 VISIT TO TEHRAN WAS A PUBLIC CONFIRMATION OF GOOD RELATIONS. SINCE THEN POINTS OF FRICTION HAVE DEVELOPED OVER AFGHANS WORKING ILLEGALLY IN IRAN, MINOR BORDER DEMARCACTION PROBLEMS, ODL HEL-MAND RIVER WATERS MISUNDERSTANDINGS, AND IN IMPLEMENTATION OF IRANIAN ASSISTANCE. BASIC PROBLEM MAY BE THE AFGHANS WANT TO GIVE LESS PUBLIC VISIBILITY TO THE IRANIAN CONNECTION THAN SHAH DESIRES. GIVEN IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO VISIBLE GOOD AFGHAN/IRANIAN RELATIONS TO COUNTER SOVIET PRESENCE, SCERETARY MAY WISH TO MENTION TO DAOUD REGIONAL IMPOTANCE OF KEEPING FENCES MENDED WITH IRAN.

4. KOREA AND PUERTO RICO. SECRETARY MIGHT REITERATE IMPORTANCE U.S. ATTACHES TO KOREA AND PUERTO RICO ISSUES AT COLOMBO, USGA, AND COMMITTEE OF 24 (AFGHANISTAN IS MEMBER). SUBSEQUENT TO NAIM'S DIS-CUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON, WHERE HE STRESSED DIFFICULTY OF AFGHANISTAN SINGLING ITSELF OUT AT MULTILATERAL FORUMS, FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS BEEN GIVEN LIST OF COUNTRIES SYMPATHETIC TO U.S. POSTIONS THAT WILL ATTEND COLOMBO OR ARE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE FORUM. PRESIDENT DAOUD WILL GO TO COLOMBO AND MAY BE AMENABLE TO TAKING TOUGHER PUBLIC POSITIONS AGAINST NAM RADICALS. SEC-RETARY SHOULD URGE THIS.

5. NARCOTICS. AFGHANISTAN'S ILLEGAL PRODUCTION OF OPIUM WAS GREATER THIS SPRING THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS, OFFSETTING INCREASED AFGHAN INTEREST (AND ABILITY) IN CONTROLLING NARCOTICS TRAFFIC. THE DIRECTOR OF UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL (UNFDAC) FOLLOWED HIS VISIT TO KABUL IN LATE APRIL WITH VERY STIFF LETTER TO PRESIDENT DAOUD EXPRESSING ALARM OVER INCREASED PRODUCTION. REACTION WAS SWIFT AND STERN.

HIS OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH STAMPING OUT PRODUCTION, AND WE PREDICT THAT THEY WILL WORK HARD ON THIS AND BE SUCCESSFUL AT LEAST IN AREAS ACCESSIBLE TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT CONTROL. THE SECRETARY MIGHT STRESS CONTINUED US INTEREST IN AFGHANISTAN'S EFFORTS AT NARCOTICS CONTROL. WHILE CONGRATULATING AFGHAN

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LEADERS FOR EFFJRTS IN TRAFFICKING CONTROL, HE MIGHT ALSO POINT OUT THAT ERADICATION OF OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION IS PROBABLY ONLY LONG-TERM SOLUTION. HE MIGHT ADD CONCERN THAT CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURE MAY JEOPARDIZE ECONOMIC/SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO COUNTRIES FAILING TO YJSE MEANINGFUL ACTION AGAINST NARCOTICS PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING.

6. BILATERAL ECONOMIC ISSUES. GOA POLICY TOWARD PRIVATE SECTOR IN GENERAL, AND FOREIGN PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN PARTICULAR, IS NEBULOUS AND RESULTING UNCERTAINTY IN DISCOURAGING POTENTIAL INVESTORS, BOTH AFGHAN AND FOREIGN. LOCAL BUSINESS FIRMS, INCLUDING COMPANIES WITH AMERICAN INVESTORS, ENCOUNTER NUMEROUS PROBLEMS IN DEALING WITH THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OF A LACK OF CLEAR POLICY DIRECTION. THE SECRETARY MIGHT EXPRESS OUR BELIEF THAT THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND FOREIGN PRIVATE INVESTMENT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO PLAY A FULL ROLE IN AFGHANISTAN'S DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS, AND COMMENT THAT MANY AMERICAN COMPANIES ARE INTERESTED IN WORKING OR INVESTING IN AFGHANISTAN AND CAN CONTRIBUTE VALUABLE EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF AFGHANISTAN'S DEVELOPMENT GOALS.

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